



NEWS RELEASE

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1800 Marquess St. • Las Cruces, NM 88005
Alan Ables, Public Affairs Officer • 505/525-4488

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For Additional Information

Sarah Schlanger, 505/438-7454

BLM Plans “Archaeology on the Pecos” Public Forum

Free Exhibits at Pecos River Village Conference Center

CARLSBAD – A public forum and exhibits about archaeological studies, findings and developments in the greater Carlsbad region is scheduled in Carlsbad’s Pecos River Village Conference Center, according Dr. Sarah Schlanger, Bureau of Land Management associate state archaeologist.

Titled “Archaeology on the Pecos,” the convention-style gathering Nov. 1-3 will include archaeologists, developers, oil and gas industry executives, educators, preservationists and federal land managers, Schlanger said.

The event will feature exhibits targeted at the Carlsbad area public, especially school-age children and their families. The exhibits will feature the latest fieldwork projects, research results and preservation tools by the approximately 30 archaeological consulting companies that work with the BLM in the Carlsbad area.

Exhibits also will include the Museum of New Mexico’s “Van of Enchantment” and the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division’s “Preservation Roadshow” about starting local and family history. An exhibit by BLM-Carlsbad Archaeologist Tiffany Sullivan, featuring Carlsbad-area oil-patch artifacts, and other presentations and activities also will be included.

The exhibits will be open from 1:30 to 5 p.m. Nov. 1, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 2 and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 3. There is no charge for viewing the exhibits.

“For more than 30 years, archaeologists have pieced together the area’s heritage, studying everything from rocks to photographs. We’ve got a fascinating story to tell. The conference – unlike anything we’ve done before – will show people what all this research

has turned up. We hope that those who attend will be entertained, informed and encouraged to create their own historic research and preservation projects,” Schlanger said.

Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton and New Mexico’s Congressional delegation also have been invited to participate, according to Schlanger.

The formal conference agenda includes remarks at 11 a.m. Nov. 1 by internationally known archaeologist Dr. Brian Fagan, University of California. His remarks are titled “Archaeology in Today’s World.”

From 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Nov. 1, experts from the archaeological community, oil and gas industry, historic preservation interests and land-managing agencies will lead a discussion about new research in the oil patch.

At 6: 30 p.m. Nov. 1 Dr. David Stuart, University of New Mexico vice-provost for academic affairs, will speak on “The Archaeology of the Southeast New Mexico in a Regional Context.”

Registration for conference, including lunch and dinner Nov. 1, is scheduled from 5 to 8 p.m. Oct. 31 at the Stevens Inn Best Western, 1829 S. Canal St., Carlsbad, and from 8 to 9 a.m. Nov. 1 at the Conference Center. There is no registration fee, but registration will be required for admission to lunch and dinner presentations.

“This public conference will be an opportunity for the archaeological profession to give something back to the community. It gives the public and the BLM an opportunity to cooperate with our energy producers and share information on the most important discoveries about the prehistory and history of this region,” Schlanger said.

The Bureau of Land Management; Lone Mountain Archaeological Services Inc.; Oxy-Permian, Midland, Texas; The New Mexico Archaeological Council; Devon Energy Corporation, Oklahoma City, Okla.; The New Mexico Historic Preservation Division; Kerr-McGee Oil and Gas, Dallas, Texas; EOG Resources, Houston, Texas; The Trans-Pecos Archaeological Council; Geo-Marine Inc., El Paso, Texas, and Mesa Field Services, Carlsbad, New Mexico, are underwriting the conference.

Additional information is available by contacting Schlanger at 505/438-7454, or the Internet at: www.nm.blm.gov.

Archaeology on the Pecos
Nov. 1-3, 2001
Pecos River Village Conference Center
Carlsbad, New Mexico

Thursday, Nov. 1

8 - 9 a.m.	Registration, Stevens Inn Best Western, 1829 S. Canal St.
9 - 11 a.m.	Welcoming Remarks and First Plenary Speaker (Invitees include Secretary Gale Norton, Department of the Interior, Senator Pete Domenici, New Mexico, Representative Joe Skeen, New Mexico)
11 a.m.	Keynote Address: Dr. Brian Fagan, University of California "Archaeology in Today's World"
Noon	Luncheon (Pre-registered guests only)
1:30 - 5 p.m.	Exhibitor's Hall featuring poster presentations by archaeological consulting firms, NM Historic Preservation Division, Museum of New Mexico, other agencies (Free, open to public)
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.	Panel Presentation: Developing a Regional Approach to Conducting Archaeology in Southeast New Mexico: What Have We Accomplished and Where Do We Go From Here?
4:30 p.m.	Reception
6:30 p.m.	Dinner and Keynote Address: Dr. David Stuart, University of New Mexico The Archaeology of Southeast New Mexico in a Regional Context (Pre-registered guests only)

Friday, Nov. 2

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Exhibitor's Hall and Van of Enchantment open with activities for public, school children (Free, open to public)
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Public Lectures on Southeast New Mexico Archaeology (Invited speakers include Reggie Wiseman (Office of Archaeological Studies), Ed Staski (New Mexico State University), John Montgomery (Eastern New Mexico University), and Elmo Baca (NM Historic Preservation Division). Final program to be announced.
2 - 4 p.m.	Archaeology in Carlsbad Classrooms Hands-on learning for schoolchildren and teaching professionals

Saturday, Nov. 3

TBA	Teacher and Educator Workshops, Project Archaeology and other classroom tools
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Exhibitor's Hall Open